

It was Mr. Beschloss's senior honors thesis at Williams College that launched his writing career. The writing project evolved into his first book, *Kennedy and Roosevelt: The Uneasy Alliance*, published in 1980. *May Day: Eisenhower, Khrushchev and the U-2 Affair* followed in 1986. *The Crisis Years: Kennedy and Khrushchev, 1960-1963*, published in 1991, won the Ambassador Book Prize. In 1993, Mr. Beschloss co-wrote *At the Highest Levels: The Inside Story of the End of the Cold War*. He has written two volumes of a trilogy on the Lyndon B. Johnson presidency, published in 1997 and 2001: *Taking Charge and Reaching for Glory*. Both are based on President Johnson's secret White House tapes and have been received with high praise. Research at the Truman Presidential Museum and Library provided material for his seventh book, a best seller, *The Conquerors: Roosevelt, Truman and the Destruction of Hitler's Germany, 1941-1945*. His insights into the influences on presidential staff debates throughout the war, including what to do with Germany at war's end, have received critical acclaim.

In addition to his best selling book career, Michael Beschloss is a trustee of the White House Historical Association, the National Archives Foundation, the Thomas Jefferson Foundation, the Urban Institute, and the University of Virginia's Miller Center of Public Affairs. He has cultivated his talent and expertise through his experiences at Williams College and Harvard University, his service on the staff of the Smithsonian from 1982-1986, as a Senior Associate at Oxford University, 1986-87, and as a Senior Fellow at the Annenberg Foundation, 1988-96. Mr. Beschloss can be seen on PBS's *The News Hour* and is a consultant to ABC News.

It is with great pleasure that I congratulate Michael Beschloss on his distinguished career and his many contributions to greater understanding of American culture through his research and analysis. I am proud that the City of Independence has selected him for recognition this year. He is most deserving of this honor. He shares President Truman's belief that an understanding of history is essential to leadership in world affairs. Mr. Speaker, please join me in warm congratulations to Michael R. Beschloss, this year's recipient of the 2004 Harry S Truman Award for Public Service, in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the evaluation and preservation of history. I applaud his contribution to the Truman Library and Museum and to our world.

REGARDING CO-SPONSORSHIP OF  
H.R. 4061

### **HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in regards to H.R. 4061, the Assistance for Orphans and Vulnerable Children Act of 2004, which passed the House International Relations Committee by unanimous consent on March 31st.

Last night the International Relations Committee filed House Report 108-479.

Because House rules prohibit the addition of additional co-sponsors to a bill once the committee report has been filed, I was not able to

formally add seven Members of Congress as co-sponsors of this legislation.

I ask that the RECORD show that Mr. INSLEE of Washington, Mr. SOUDER of Indiana, Mr. OSBORNE of Nebraska, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. MAJETTE of Georgia, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, and Mr. HUNTER of California are in support of my bill and should be considered by this body as cosponsors of H.R. 4061.

### CONGRATULATING CHRIS MAZZINO AS TEACHER OF THE YEAR

### **HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor teacher Chris Mazzino as he is awarded the Milken Family Foundation's National Educator Award.

I ask that my colleagues pay tribute to this English teacher from West Scranton High School as he receives this tremendous recognition from the Milken Foundation during Teacher Appreciation Week.

Teachers are our nation's unsung heroes. The number of young lives touched by teachers is countless, and Mr. Mazzino exemplifies the best in his profession by encouraging his students to achieve far beyond the reach of what they thought possible. Mr. Mazzino's creative writing class published a book entitled "26 Odd: Creative Works by Creative Writers."

In addition, Mr. Mazzino diligently works with students throughout the entire school to help increase their scores on Pennsylvania's state accountability test. As a result of Mr. Mazzino's efforts, West Scranton High School's reading and writing test scores have improved significantly.

Mr. Mazzino also demonstrated his dedication by revamping the entire summer reading program at the West Scranton. I am proud to recognize the fact that Mr. Mazzino is the 37th teacher from our state to receive this award.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor and a privilege to represent a teacher who has dedicated his life to today's young people, who will indeed have a brighter future because of Mr. Mazzino.

### RECOGNITION OF GARY WESTON

### **HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Gary Weston, who was recently killed in Kosovo.

Gary Weston was an employee of DynCorp International, which was serving with the United Nations as international police officers. Gary and other members were fired upon by a Jordanian police officer for unknown reason. Two fellow workers were killed in the resulting firefight. Gary was flown to a hospital after receiving several gunshots. He later died from complications of the gunshot wounds, his wife Nina Weston was there by her husband's side.

Gary Weston was 52 years old and lived in Vienna, Illinois. Not enough can be said about the great sacrifice this man made for his coun-

try, the ultimate sacrifice. He is survived by wife, Nina Weston; his mother, Christine Weston of Metropolis; a son, Richard N. Weston of Granite City; two daughters, Rachel A. Weston of Honolulu, Hawaii and Elizabeth E. Weston of Vienna; five grandchildren, Trey, Derek, Heather, Dalton and Parker; two brothers, Ben and wife Jan Weston of Vienna and Ed and wife Susan Weston of Cape Girardeau; a sister, Melinda and husband Ron White of Austin, Texas; and his mother-in-law, Marilyn Whiteside of Vienna. My thoughts and prayers go out to his families and loved ones. Gary Weston gave his life in an effort to improve the lives of others. This sacrifice should never be forgotten.

### RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF INCREASING AWARENESS OF AUTISM

SPEECH OF

### **HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 5, 2004*

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution that will raise awareness of autism, one of the most mysterious, and challenging mental conditions that affects the American people. Autism affects 1 in 166 children today, and is thus the third most common developmental disability. Autism comes in a wide spectrum of intensities, ranging from mild personality quirks, to profound communication difficulties, to self-destructive behaviors, to utter dependence on care-givers.

This nation spends \$90 million per year caring for people with autism. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have estimated that as many as 1.5 million Americans have some form of autism, and the prevalence is skyrocketing. Based on statistics from the U.S. Department of Education and other government agencies, autism is growing at a rate of 10-17 percent per year. At these rates, the prevalence of autism in our country alone could reach 4 million in the next decade.

The cost of specialized treatment in a developmental center for people with autism is approximately \$80,000 per individual per year. The cost of special education programs for school-aged children with autism is often more than \$30,000 per individual per year. But the greatest burden of caring for the autistic falls on families of those with autism.

It is hard to even imagine what it would be like to be autistic or to care for an autistic family member. To give a bit of insight, I would like to share a personal story of one of my staff members, who has a 26-year-old autistic daughter named "Amy." Despite the fact that Amy is an adult, she is not able to use language to communicate her needs. She cannot communicate even simple messages such as that she has a stomach ache or that her room is too cold, and she gets extremely upset when she needs to communicate and is not able to do it.

This staffer shared a story that he said would probably sound familiar to any person who has lived with autistic individuals. Amy woke my staffer and his wife in the middle of the night one night with screams of rage and frustration. When they rushed into her bedroom, she took them to her bedroom window